Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL STATE 029493

FOLLOWING REPEAT NEW DELHI 1904 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USUN 8 FEB QUOTE

CONFIDENTIAL NEW DELHI 1904

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: NACC FOREIGN MINISTER MEETING NEW DELHI

REF: A. STATE 10723; B. NEW DELHI 908

1. DURING LUNCHEON CONVERSATION FEB 8. MEA DIRECTOR VINAY VERMA SAID IT WAS ALL BUT CERTAIN NACC WOULD MEET IN DELHI APRIL 6-11. VERMA SAID MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES HAVE RESPONDED IN AFFIRMATIVE TO SUGGESTED DATES. HE DID NOT THINK IT LIKELY THERE WOULD BE ANY FUTURE SLIPPAGE IN THE SESSION OPENING. SPECULATING ON THE REPRESENTATION, VERMA THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE A MINIMUM OF 25 AND MAXIMUM OF 45 OBSERVERS PLUS THE 25 REGULAR NACC MEMBERS. HE SAID UNLESS CHANGES WERE ADOPTED NACC OBSERVERS AND GUESTS WOULD NOT BE ENTITLED TO ATTEND WORKING SESSIONS, ALTHOUGH HE SAID ANY ACCREDITED DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WOULD BE WELCOME AT THE PUBLIC MEETINGS.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 029493

2. VERMA THOUGHT IT ALMOST CERTAIN FRIENDS OF NORTH KOREA WOULD INTRODUCE SOME KIND OF KOREAN DECLARATION FOR RESOLUTION. GOI STRATEGY IS TO PREPARE RESTRAINED STATEMENT ON THE KOREAN QUESTION THAT WILL HOPEFULLY DETER A MORE RADICAL DECLARATION BY NORTH KOREAN ALLIES. THE ISSUES WHICH VERMA THOUGHT WOULD INEVITABLY FIGURE MOST PROMINENTLY ON THE POLITICAL AGENDA INCLUDE SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

- 3. ARUNDATI GHOSH, FORMERLY WITH INDIAN UN MISSION AND NOW IN MEA ECONOMIC DIVISION, SAID THE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AGENDA WAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED BY THE COLOMBO DECLARATION. SHE THOUGHT THE STATE OF NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND PROSPECTS OF CIEC IN PARTICULAR WOULD BE PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ISSUE BEFORE NACC MINISTERS. SHE ALSO NOTED THAT NACC WOULD FOLLOW ON HEELS OF "THREE WEEKS OF NEGOTIATIONS" ON UNCTAD COMMON FUND IN GENEVA. AT PRACTICAL LEVEL, GHOSH FOREIGN MINISTERS GIVING GUIDANCE ON FURTHER ACTIONS IN ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPECIFIC NON-ALIGNED ECONOMIC PROGRAMS.
- 4. WE REMINDED VERMA OF KEWAL SINGH/ATHERTON DISCUSSION IN WHICH THE NEA SECRETARY INDICATED WE WOULD TAKE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE NACC AND THE INDIAN AMBASSADOR SAID WE SHOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE MEA. VERMA WAS FAMILIAR WITH THE CONVERSATION AND SAID HE HAD READ A FULL REPORT OF IT. HE INDICATED MEA WOULD COOPERATE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE BUT ALSO MADE IT CLEAR HE VIEWED THE NACC AS NON-ALIGNED EVENT WHERE THE MEA WOULD BE BOUND BY RULES OF "FAMILY PRIVACY".

SCHNEIDER UNQTE. VANCE

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